

CLAIMSWhat is claimed:

1. A composition for controlling a plant pest population comprising 1,8-cineole, menthol and methyl salicylate.
- 5 2. The composition of claim 1 comprising eucalyptus oil as a source for 1,8-cineole.
3. The composition of claim 1 or 2 comprising peppermint oil as a source for menthol.
- 10 4. The composition of any of claims 1-3 comprising wintergreen oil as a source for methyl salicylate.
5. The composition of any of claims 2-4 comprising a mixture of peppermint oil, wintergreen oil and eucalyptus oil.
6. The composition of any of claims 1-5 comprising, in addition, an agriculturally or horticulturally acceptable carrier.
- 15 7. A method for controlling a plant pest population, which method comprises contacting the pest population with an amount of a composition of any of claims 1-6 effective to control said pest population.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein said pest population is an insect population.
- 20 9. The method of claim 8, wherein said insect population is a sucking insect population selected from the group consisting of aphids and thrips.
10. The method of claim 9, wherein said pest population is an aphid population selected from *Rhopalosiphum padi*, *Aphis fabae* and *Cavariella aegopodi*.
11. The method of any of claims 7-10, wherein said composition is applied to the plant by spraying.

12. The method of any of claims 7-10, wherein said composition is applied onto the soil or in the vicinity of said plant.
13. The method of claim 10, wherein the plant to be treated is dill and the aphid population is *Cavariella aegopodi*.
- 5 14. An article of manufacture being impregnated with a pest controlling composition of any of claims 1-6 and to be used in the method of controlling a plant pest population of any of claims 7-13.
15. The article of claim 14 being selected from the group consisting of pellets, sticks, poles and woven fabric.